

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /055 W

-----040505Z 119578 /22

R 040219Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1765

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 9605

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TH

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER DISSOLVES THE BANGKOK METROPOLITAN ADMIN-
ISTRATION

REF: BKK 9287

1. ACTING ON A DIRECTIVE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER'S
ADVISORY COUNCIL (PMAC), PRIME MINISTER THANIN KRAIWICHIAN
INVOKED ARTICLE 21 OF THE CONSTITUTION TO DISSOLVE THE
BANGKOK METROPOLITAN ADMINISTRATION (BMA) ON APR 29.
CHIANG MAI GOVERNOR CHALO THAMMASIRI HAS REPLACED OUSTED
BANGKOK GOVERNOR THAMMANUM THIAN-NGOEN. THIS ACTION MARKS
THE END OF THE ONLY REMAINING ELECTED GOVERNMENTAL BODY
OF ANY IMPORTANCE IN THAILAND.

2. A CEREMONY WAS HELD ON MAY 2 AT THE BANGKOK MUNICIPAL
HEADQUARTERS MARKING THE TURNOVER IN THE BMA. ASIDE
FROM CHALO, THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED THE
APPOINTMENT OF FOUR NEW DEPUTY GOVERNORS: CHONG WONGKHAN,
DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE SECONDARY EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT; THAMRONG SUKCHAROEN, AN INSPECTOR WITH
THE BMA; SAKONCHIT PHANOMWAN NA AYUTTHAYA, DEPUTY
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF MUNICIPAL AND PUBLIC WORKS; AND
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DR. SUPHAWAT PHANACHET, A LECTURER AT MAHIDON
UNIVERSITY.

3. THE PRIME MINISTER'S ORDER ALSO DISSOLVED THE
BANGKOK ASSEMBLY IN PLACE OF WHICH THE MINISTRY OF
INTERIOR HAS APPOINTED 45 NEW MEMBERS. MOST OF THOSE
APPOINTED ARE ACTIVE OR RETIRED CIVIL SERVANTS. NONE OF

THE FORMER ASSEMBLYMEN WAS APPOINTED TO THE NEW ASSEMBLY.

4. INTERIOR MINISTER SAMAK SUNTHORAWET, WHOSE MANIPULATIONS HELPED BRING ABOUT THE DISSOLUTION (SEE REFTEL), FINALLY BESTED HIS OLD RIVAL THAMMANUN, BUT HE FAILED TO GET ANY OF HIS CLOSE PROTEGES APPOINTED TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS, WHILE GOVERNOR CHALO IS REGARDED AS AN HONEST AND COMPETENT ADMINISTRATOR, HE WILL BE FAR LESS TROUBLE TO SAMAK THAN THAMMANUN. SAMAK HAS ALREADY RE-OPENED THE ISSUE OF ILLEGAL VENDORS (SEE REFTEL), AND HAS ORDERED THE NEW BMA TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF A 6 KILO-METER HIGHWAY WHICH THAMMANUN HAD BLOCKED.

5. BIOGRAPHIC MATERIAL ON CHALO FOLLOWS IN SEPTTEL.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-May-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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